

Dr. Cooper's illustrious career is punctuated by groundbreaking discoveries and substantive impacts in the global fight for a healthy lifestyle. I wish him all the best on the celebration of his ninetieth year and have tremendous respect for his continued professional career as he serves as Chairman of six health and wellness companies and Chairman Emeritus of The Cooper Institute. My sincere appreciation for all that he continues to do to improve lives in our country and across the globe.

**HONORING WIAWAKA CENTER FOR WOMEN FOR THE COMPLETED RESTORATION OF THE HOUSE OF TRIX AND THEIR IMPACT ON THE LAKE GEORGE COMMUNITY**

**HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 29, 2021*

Ms. STEFANIK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Wiawaka Center for Women on their successful restoration of the House of Trix, one of the many buildings used by the retreat, and a historic landmark located on Lake George in New York.

The Wiawaka Center for Women has an important role in our community as a place of rest, rejuvenation, and support for women throughout the North Country and the entire United States of America. The center, founded by Mary Fuller in 1903, is on the National Registry of Historic Places and has been a place of retreat for generations of women. Wiawaka is the oldest and longest continuously operating site of its kind in the United States. The center has previously hosted the likes of Georgia O'Keefe, renowned American artist, and has a rich history of supporting and encouraging women in their fight for equal rights.

In renovating and restoring the historic House of Trix, Wiawaka continues to invest in and pursue their mission of providing a place of retreat for all women. This is the only building within the center that hosts a variety of programming including art workshops, wellness classes, presentations, and events. Through perseverance, teamwork, and with support of the community, they restored this historic building back to its original splendor and purpose. After receiving funding through a grant by the Alfred Z. Solomon Charitable Trust, Wiawaka will be able to continue their important work of serving the community of women around them.

On behalf of New York's 21st District, I would like to thank the Wiawaka Center for Women, and their entire team, for their dedication and commitment in revitalizing and restoring a deeply important historic property in our community. I congratulate them on their achievements thus far and the continued accomplishments of the women this center serves.

**HONORING THE LIFE OF CHRISTOPHER YOCK**

**HON. JARED HUFFMAN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 29, 2021*

Mr. HUFFMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in celebration of the life of Christopher Yock, who passed away on June 8, 2021 at the age of 57 after battling a structure fire at San Francisco International Airport. He was a beloved member of the San Rafael community and a San Francisco firefighter.

Christopher was born on December 27, 1963 in San Francisco and was raised in the Westborough neighborhood of South San Francisco. Christopher began his journey in the fire service as a firefighter at the Alameda Naval Airbase Station and the Presidio Fire Department before finally achieving his dream of becoming a firefighter for the San Francisco Fire Department. Christopher loved his career in the fire service, and was a beloved firehouse chef who prepared amazing meals for his fellow firefighters.

Christopher lived a full and vibrant life, meeting and making lifelong friends along the way. He had a passion for traveling, cooking, photography, and music. Christopher was a seasoned world traveler, with some of his favorite destinations being Palau, Porto, Maldives, Tahiti, Bali and numerous family trips to Maui. Christopher is survived by his siblings, Jeffery Yock and Jennifer Yock-Lanthier, his son, Cayden Yock (Nancy Galvin), his brother-in-law, Sean Lanthier, and his nephew and nieces, Danielle Gracia, Alyssa Sozio, Adam Lanthier, and Ashley Yock.

Madam Speaker, I respectfully ask that you join me in extending condolences to Christopher's family and friends and in expressing our deep appreciation for his dedicated service to public safety and the San Francisco Fire Department.

**HONORING THE LIFE OF BARRY WILLIAMS**

**HON. JOE COURTNEY**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 29, 2021*

Mr. COURTNEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to observe and mourn the passing of Barry Williams, a local civic champion who dedicated his life to bringing people together and who tirelessly advocated for social justice, the middle class, and the everyday working man and woman. Sadly, on May 2nd of this year—Barry passed away at the age of 71 after a tough 17-year battle with Parkinson's disease. Barry's inspirational life, however, will never dissipate from our community's collective spirit as he treated everyone he encountered with love and humility, setting an immortalized example for us all to aspire to.

Born in in 1949 in York, Maine—Barry and his family relocated to Waterford, Connecticut where Barry grew up and acquired his love for the coastline. Barry would spend many hours of his life enjoying the beach, fishing, or sailing, and was invigorated when he caught a fish, which wasn't often. Barry was an avid

reader and eventually made a career of his love for books by attaining a degree at the University of Connecticut in Library Science then even returning to work for his alma mater as an acquisitions librarian.

While working as a librarian, Barry was also an active member of the American Federation of Teachers (AFT local union and even worked his way up to become President of his local. Being elected to lead his union truly changed Barry and ignited a passion in him that he used to champion workers' rights throughout his life. While president of the union, Barry was admired for his ability to fight for his members but still maintain a loving and friendly personality and always face challenges with a positive attitude. Barry's accomplishments and dedication to his union gained him statewide notoriety and led to him being recruited as a Government Affairs Representative by Connecticut statewide AFT President George Springer. Hitting the ground running—Barry made his mark and inspired all those around him with his willingness to put others before himself. Not only did Barry talk the talk but he was always out on the front lines with his brothers and sisters rallying for their right to equal opportunities and fairness in the workplace. Achieving milestone after milestone—Barry set himself apart as one of the top labor leaders in Connecticut and this led to his election in 1985 to represent all workers in the state as the Secretary Treasurer of the Connecticut AFL-CIO.

Now a true and tried advocate in the world of unions, Barry decided to go independent and start his own lobbying firm to represent unions and non-profits in 1987. With all the statewide connections he had developed in his decades of organizing and union work—Barry quickly gained traction as someone who could bring opposing sides to the table to talk, and he also became known for a little secret weapon in breaking the ice between opposing forces—his famous homemade bread. Barry was truly a master negotiator because he never lamented, and his genuine and happy nature rubbed off on all those around him which made coming to agreements easier for all parties. Barry continued a very successful lobbying career until later in life when he would receive a devastating diagnosis with Parkinson's disease which would lead to his retirement. Barry however as expected, did not let the disease dampen his love for life and for bringing happiness to all those around him. Even when he was in the later stages of his life in the Hebrew Center for Health and Rehabilitation in West Hartford—his positive demeanor gained him the nickname, "the Mayor," as he was so loved by his fellow residents and staff. Even up until his last Christmas, Barry grew out his beard to transform himself into Santa to pass out small gifts and candy to fellow residents.

Madam Speaker, the loss of Barry leaves a deep void in Connecticut as he was a unifier who brought people of both sides of the aisle together. I ask that my colleagues and this Chamber to join me in expressing our deepest respect for Barry's work and life and send our deepest condolences to the Williams Family. Barry is survived by his wife Susan, children Colby, Jake, Sam, Patel, his sisters Sedona and Kathi, and many other family members and friends who will carry the lasting memory of Barry in their hearts so that his joy, laughter, and compassion will continue to carry on.